

The French Broad Hustler

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RURAL FREE DELIVERY SERVICE

News from Washington is to the effect that Fourth Assistant Postmaster-General Degraw has issued a statement as to changes that are likely to occur in the rural delivery of mail that will interest people living on the routes where daily mail is delivered. The number of families on the route who are availing themselves of the service and the number of boxes erected will also be considered. The small number of pieces of mail handled on any route may be due to lack of appreciation on the part of the people actually on the route, as well as to the small number of people having boxes up. Where these things combine to make the mail matter handled of very small amount the service may be curtailed to three times a week, or even abolished altogether. It would seem strange that any family living in reach of a daily mail route, over which their mail can be delivered to their very doors, would fail to avail themselves of so great a blessing; yet there are numbers of people living on the line of the service who do not seem to care anything about it. Those who do care should take every step to swell the amount of mail handled, and those who have not put up boxes ought to do so at once. For unless something is done in many cases the service will be lost. The department says that where the trouble is due merely to insufficient population to make the mail matter come up to the required amount, steps will be taken to extend the route over a larger territory.

In view of the position taken by Mr. Degraw with reference to putting up boxes a movement has been inaugurated in the House looking to a reduction in the price of them so that the people may be enabled to carry out the suggestion of the department in this regard. Referring to this matter the Washington correspondent of the News & Observer sends that paper the following interesting item:

"Representative Pou has introduced a bill, requiring the Post-office Department to purchase rural free delivery boxes after competitive bids, and to dispose of them to patrons of the rural routes at actual cost. Mr. Pou believes that exorbitant prices are being charged for boxes, the sale of which is monopolized by three manufacturing firms and his plan is to give these boxes to patrons of the service at cost, meets with the approval of Representative Moon, the ranking member of the Post-office committee, as well as Mr. Small and other members who have promised that he shall be given an early hearing. A hardware merchant here informed Mr. Pou today that in his opinion the \$1.25 boxes required for the rural service do not cost over twenty-five cents. Mr. Pou will urge his amendment on his return and he hopes to secure favorable action by the house committee.

Mr. Pou's bill makes it the duty of the Postmaster General to purchase for account of the government all mail boxes as may be necessary in the operation and extension of the Rural Free Delivery Service. He shall at such times as he may deem proper ask publicly for sealed proposals for the sale and delivery at such places and in such quantities as he may deem expedient of such mail boxes as may be necessary for the operation and extension of the service and he shall award the contract for the sale and delivery of these boxes to the person, firm or corporation making the lowest bid for the sale and delivery of the same, but the Postmaster General is hereby authorized and empowered to make such requirements respecting the bids or proposals for the sale and delivery of said boxes as he may deem necessary for the protection of the government of the United States.

Section 2 provides that after having purchased such mail boxes as may from time to time be necessary to accommodate patrons of the Rural Free Delivery Service in the operation and extension of

SENATOR CHARLIE TOMS REPUDIATES HIS FAMILY, GOES OVER TO REPUBLICAN PARTY.

Charles French Toms is a splendid gentleman! His father before him was an honored officer in the Confederate army, and did what lay in his power to uphold and sustain the south in her great but unequal struggle for principles even yet supposed to have been thought by southern men to be right. In the dark days of the sixties when the south was being overrun by negroes, carpet baggers and scoundrels, when civil government was almost destroyed and there was but little protection to either life or property, Captain Toms stood true to his race and the white people of the south. Through the darkest hours of our humiliation at the hands of the republican party, through that time which Senator Money says was like a hellish dream, the first period of radical rule in this state and in the south, Captain Toms stood and fought with the democratic party for decent civil government and for the protection of our women and children.

In the more recent years when Butler, Russell and Pritchard with a band of one hundred and twenty thousand negroes got possession of the state government and put into responsible offices more than a thousand negroes, when our state institutions were turned over into the hands of incompetent, corrupt men, some of whom are now fugitives from justice, when George White and Abe Middleton were high in the councils of the republican party, when white women were knocked off the sidewalks in the city of Wilmington by impudent negroes with impunity, when many of the towns in the eastern part of the state were turned over to be robbed and plundered by negro politicians, Captain Toms, the father of our splendid young statesman stood again and fought again with the Frenchs, of Wilmington, and the other good men of the state who loved honor, honesty, good government, and the good name of our state better than they loved office and spoils.

In 1900, when the democrats of the state settled the negro question over the howling protest of the radicals and negroes, the Captain again joined hands with the Frenchs and the other democrats of the state to place the state upon a higher plain of manhood and citizenship.

In all these fights for civic virtue, for good government, for the protection of our women and children, and for the Lost Cause, the French family of Wilmington have played an honorable part.

But they, together with Capt. Toms stand condemned today. Charles French Toms has spoken, and Charlie is an honorable man. We have had our Vances, Ransoms, Masons, Calhouns, Toombs, McEnrys, Moneys, Baileys, Morgans, Bacons, Daniels, Lees, Johnsons, Camdons, Aycocks, Irebells and a long list of such pigmies, many of whom have died and passed away before the light was turned on and we are sorry for them. Since our splendid statesman has spoken, we are sorry for all who have not lived to hear. Lost to light and wisdom, lost to truth and honest conversion, we can almost hear the groans of repentment against the fate that removed them from earth too soon, by Jefferson, Jackson, Monroe, Benton and a thousand others of these benighted and misguided men who are remembered in history. A sad fate for men who would have loved the light! How they would have enjoyed imbibing the wisdom and drinking in the greatness of our magnificent hero.

Let it be a subject for rejoicing to all good men everywhere. Our nation's saved. Our recluses of wisdom and learning, our genius, our prophet, our great man, our chattel mortgage man has spoken. O, ye tolling millions, all who are of little faith and of faint hearts, lift up your heads and rejoice at the national awakening. A great man, a consistent man, a man of powerful intellect and much wisdom has come forth to lead you into all good—and into the radical party which is said by some leading radicals to be contemplating holding the next North Carolina state convention in the Atlanta penitentiary.

Come with us all you who doubt, if such there be, and let us take a closer look at our new born republican. Let us view the grannies and doctors who assisted in bringing into existence so great a prodigy. We would not mislead you by causing you to think this great republican leader was born in a single day. Far be it from us the deceive. He has been a borning for these many years past. The Southern railroad has been the doctor, and a patient doctor it has proved itself. With passes and flattery, coaxing and persuading and a little more flattery, with Rollins and Williams and Pace and Rhodes as nurses helping to coax with a congressional bee, the babe a few days ago was completely born. Behold the splendid result! This new born could not be inconsistent. Its first step was to resign its senatorship, an office obtained by democratic votes under the double dealings of the fellow who proclaimed to the public a year and a half ago that "he was born a democrat and hoped to die one."

Pearson, Gudger, Carter and others have had their price and received their reward. Our hero goes without money and without price? Freely we give, freely we receive. He surely deserves well at your hands, O, ye "political pirates," as Judge Bynum calls you. His sacrifices are great. Loss of self respect, reputation of French and Toms families, alike, embracing all that republicanism in North Carolina stands for, the very name of which Judge Ewart has said, has been a stench in the nostrils of decent people. Give him what you have to give quickly or the opportunity may not offer itself again. His arguments may re-convince him. The fellow of no reputation you have with you always and may be certain of, but not he. He will walk with you in green pastures, but will not be with you at the breaking of the cistern at the well. He hoped for that in vain a year and a half ago with us.

Our lost hero may well be compared with the Father of his Country. You know Washington never told a lie, was never inconsistent and never changed with the moon.

We mean hereby to announce, gentlemen, that Charlie French has done what he should have done ten years ago—announced that he has gone over to the republican party. He has been there all but in name for the past ten years or more, and his double dealing with our party has been the common knowledge of the democrats of Henderson county all this while. We are better off without him. The democratic party is not the place for men of his type. We want single faced men—men who are what they seem.

the same, the Postmaster General shall arrange for the delivery of the same to patrons desiring to purchase these boxes through the postoffices of the United States by the postmasters thereof and no person shall be required to pay for any mail box purchased at a price greater than the actual cost thereof to the United States government."

When Congressman Blackburn returned to Washington and entered the halls of congress he was greeted very cordially by his colleagues, and Speaker Cannon, who has been his friend, conferred a signal honor upon him by at once calling him to the chair, where he presided over the deliberations of congress for a hour or more. But Mr. Blackburn is not the first North Carolina congressman to be thus honored. Speaker Crisp often called Hon. W. T. Crawford to the

chair, especially after the latter delivered his telling speech on the silver question, said by the Montgomery Advertiser and many of Mr. Crawford's colleagues in the house to have been the best speech made upon that subject. Crawford was becoming quite well known and had high standing in congress when he was unfortunately retired as a result of the fusion landslide and Pearson boodile in 1894. The people called for him again in 1898, however, and he was returned to his old position against an adverse majority of 1,500, but the radicals unseated him. Still he is uppermost in the estimation of our mountain people.

See that your druggist gives you no imitation when you ask for Kennedy's Laxative Honey and Tar, the original Laxative cough syrup. Sold by F. V. Hunter.

The democratic executive committee of the 10th district has been called to meet in Asheville on Saturday, May 5th, for the purpose of fixing the time and place of meeting of the democratic convention.

MADE FROM NATIVE ROOTS.

SAFE AND RELIABLE.
That the roots of many native plants, growing wild in our American forests, possess remarkable properties for the cure of human maladies is well proven. Even the untutored Indian had learned the curative value of some of these and taught the early settlers their uses. The Indian never liked work so he wanted his squaw to get well as soon as possible that she might do the work and let him hunt. Therefore, he dug "papoose root" for her, for that was their great remedy for female weaknesses. Dr. Pierce uses the same root—called Blue Cohosh—in his "Favorite Prescription," skillfully combined with other agents that make it more effective than any other medicine in curing all the various weaknesses and painful derangements peculiar to women. Many afflicted women have been saved from the operating table and the surgeon's knife by the timely use of Doctor Pierce's Favorite Prescription. Tenderness over the lower pelvic region, with backache, spells of dizziness, faintness, bearing down pains or distress should not go unheeded. A course of "Favorite Prescription" will work marvelous benefit in all such cases, and generally effect a permanent cure if persisted in for a reasonable length of time. The "Favorite Prescription" is a harmless agent, being wholly prepared from native medicinal roots, without a drop of alcohol in its make up, whereas all other medicines, put up for sale through druggists for woman's peculiar ailments, contain large quantities of spirituous liquors, which are very harmful, especially to delicate women. "Favorite Prescription" contains neither alcohol nor harmful habit-forming drugs. All its ingredients are printed on each bottle wrapper. It is a powerful invigorating tonic, imparting health and strength in particular to the organs distinctly feminine. For weak and sickly women, who are "worn-out," or debilitated, especially if women who work in store, office, or school-room, who sit at the typewriter or sewing machine, or bear heavy household burdens, and for nursing mothers, Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription will prove a priceless benefit because of its health-restoring and strength-giving power.
For constipation, the true, scientific cure is Dr. Pierce's Pleasant Pellets. Mild, harmless, yet sure.

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It is safe for children.
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It breaks up sudden colds.
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We have sold a great many bottles and it gives splendid satisfaction as a reliable remedy for coughs, colds, sore throat, hoarseness, bronchial and chest inflammations.—Get a bottle.—It's a household safe guard.

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Watch Maker and Jeweler.
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For Hotels, Boarding Houses and House-keepers

Hemmed Sheets, Pillow Cases, Pillow Tubing and Casing
White Bed Spreads and Comforts, Table Linen, Doilies and Napkins
A nice assortment of Rugs from 75c to \$3.00

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FINE COTTONS and LINENS, both in white goods and colors, are having a well deserved popularity as they combine fine appearance with great durability while inexpensive.

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Very attractive styles at reasonable prices. Suits from \$3.95 to \$28. Skirts, \$1.95 to \$10. Spring Coats, \$3.50 to \$12.50. Our stock of Embroideries, White Waists (from 65c to \$2.90) shows great value.

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A big stock of big values from low priced goods on up to very fine grades—\$88.00 in men's suits.

Fine Shoes of all kinds. Hats and Caps. Trunks and Bags. Mattings and Rugs up to 9x12 Axminster Rugs at \$23.75.

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We know these shoes to be of superior quality throughout, and therefore recommend them.

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As Space is limited we cannot mention the many bargains that can be bought at a sacrifice.

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